

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit:

Examiner:

Applicant: Ottino et al.

Serial No: 10/561,202

Filing Date: December 19, 2005

For: A Lock For A Door Of A Motor Vehicle

PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.47(a)

Mail Stop Petition
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Notification Of Missing Requirements Under 35 U.S.C. § 371 mailed March 31, 2006, Applicants submit this Petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.47(a) requesting that the Commissioner accept the application by the signing joint inventor, Mr. Franco Ottino, on behalf of himself and on behalf of the non-signing joint inventor, Mr. Giacomo Crotti, who cannot be found or reached for executing the Declaration and Power of Attorney for Patent Application despite the diligent effort by the undersigned. A petition fee of \$200.00 as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(g), the fee of \$130.00 as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.492(h) for the late submission of the oath or declaration, and the fee of \$1,020.00 for a three month extension of time, is submitted herewith. The Commissioner is further authorized to charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1759.

09/12/2006 MKAYPAGH 00000098 501759 10561202

03 FC:1463 200.00 DA

The facts surrounding the unsigned Declaration and Power of Attorney for Patent Application (hereinafter referred to as the “Declaration”) are as follows:

1. The joint inventors, Mssrs. Franco Giovanni Ottino and Giacomo Crotti, invented “A Lock For A Door Of A Motor Vehicle.” This was the subject matter of an Italian national application having a Serial Number TO2003A 000557 and a filing date of July 18, 2003.

2. A PCT patent application for “A Lock For A Door Of A Motor Vehicle” having an International Application Number PCT/EP04/51542 was filed on July 19, 2004. This PCT patent application claims priority to the above-referenced Italian national application, as evidenced by International Publication Number WO 2005/012677 (Attachment 1).

3. The above-captioned U.S. national stage patent application for “A Lock For A Door Of A Motor Vehicle” having an Application Number 10/561,202 was filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) on December 19, 2005. The U.S. national stage patent application claims priority to the originally filed Italian national application through the above-referenced PCT patent application. This is evidenced by the transmittal letter for the U.S. national stage application, which is included at Attachment 2.

4. Mr. Ottino executed the Declaration on April 14, 2006. Mr. Crotti did not execute the Declaration. The signing joint inventor, Mr. Ottino, executed the Declaration on behalf of himself and on behalf of the non-signing joint inventor, Mr. Crotti. The partially executed Declaration is included at Attachment 3.

5. Mr. Alex Porat, Patent Counsel for Intier Automotive Closures, Inc., prepared a cover letter of instructions to Mr. Crotti requesting that Mr. Crotti execute and return the Declaration. Enclosed with the cover letter was the complete patent application, including the specification and drawings, and a copy of the Declaration for signing. A copy of the cover letter of instructions is included at Attachment 4.

6. The above-mentioned cover letter, along with the complete patent application and Declaration, was sent by Mr. Porat to Mr. Crotti at his last known address via Registered Mail on June 20, 2006. A copy of the Receipt for Registered Mail is included at Attachment 5.

7. Mr. Crotti has not executed and returned the Declaration.

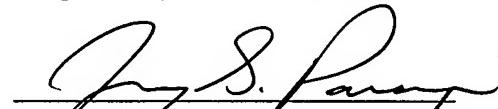
8. The present Petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.47(a) seeks to allow the joint inventor who has previously signed the Declaration, Mr. Ottino, to prosecute the above-referenced national stage patent application in the USPTO on behalf of himself and on behalf of the non-signing joint inventor, Mr. Crotti.

Mr. Crotti's last known address is Via Liguria, 17, 56100 Pisa, Italy. Applicants have not been able to reach Mr. Crotti even after diligent effort. Applicants respectfully request, therefore, that the Commissioner accept the diligent efforts of the Applicants and allow the Applicants to prosecute the patent application to their best ability as the patent application is an

asset of the Applicants.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this Petition is directed.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: 8/31/06
Attorney Docket No: 21908-103587

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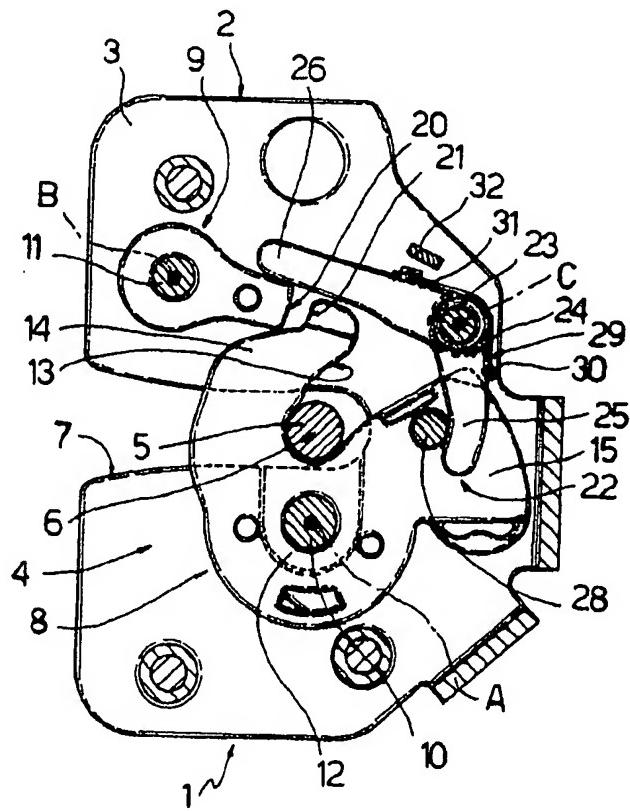
PCT

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TO2003A 000557 18 July 2003 (18.07.2003) IT
- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): INTIER AUTOMOTIVE CLOSURES S.p.A. [IT/IT]; Corso Allamano, 70/5, I-10090 CASCINE VICA - RIVOLI (IT).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): OTTINO, Franco,
- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: A LOCK FOR A DOOR OF A MOTOR VEHICLE



(57) Abstract: Described herein is a lock (1) for a door of a motor vehicle provided with a closing mechanism (4) designed to cooperate with a lock striker (6) fixed to an upright of the door itself; the closing mechanism (4) is provided with: a fork (8), which can assume an opening position, in which it enables engagement and disengagement between the lock striker (6) and a seat (13) thereof, and a closing position, in which it withholds the lock striker (6) within its seat (13) and prevents disengagement thereof; a dog (9) coupled via snapaction with the fork (8) for blocking it in a releasable way in the closing position; and an auxiliary lever (22), which can be actuated by the fork (8) during coupling with the lock striker (6) for exerting an action of thrust on the dog (9) and causing it to couple with the fork (8) itself.

WO 2005/012677 A1



ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

Published:

— *with international search report*

A LOCK FOR A DOOR OF A MOTOR VEHICLE

TECHNICAL FIELD

The present invention relates to a lock for a door of a motor vehicle.

It is pointed out that the term «door» is used, in the present description and in the ensuing claims, in its widest sense to indicate any element that can move between an opening position and a closing position of an access opening to an internal compartment of a motor vehicle. The aforesaid term therefore comprises, in addition to the side doors of the motor vehicle, to which explicit reference will be made in the ensuing description without this entailing any loss of generality, also the bonnet or the boot or the hatchback.

BACKGROUND ART

As is known, locks for motor vehicles generally comprise a supporting body designed to be fixed to a door of the motor vehicle, and a closing mechanism carried by the supporting body and designed to couple with a lock striker fixed to an upright of the frame of the door itself. There exist moreover solutions, used much more rarely, in which the supporting body of the lock is constrained to the upright, and the lock striker is instead fixed to the door.

In both cases, the closing mechanism is formed basically by a fork and a dog or catch hinged to the supporting body about respective fixed axes parallel to one another.

The fork has an engagement seat for a generally cylindrical portion of the aforesaid lock striker, is elastically loaded towards an opening position, in which it enables engagement and disengagement between the lock striker and its seat, and can assume a closing position, in which it withholds the

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cylindrical portion of the lock striker within its seat and prevents disengagement thereof.

The dog is pushed by a spring to couple via snap-action, by
5 means of an engagement edge thereof, with a peripheral retention shoulder of the fork for blocking the latter in a releasable way in the closing position.

In particular, following upon slamming of the door, the fork
10 is displaced, under the thrust of the lock striker, from the opening position to an overtravel position set beyond the closing position; during the stretch of travel comprised between the closing position and the overtravel position, the fork passes, with its own retention shoulder, beyond the dog,
15 enabling the latter to snap, with its own engagement edge, into a position facing the aforesaid shoulder. During the subsequent elastic return of the fork towards the opening position, the retention shoulder sets itself bearing upon the engagement edge of the dog, which thus defines the closing
20 position of the fork itself on the lock striker.

In the case of presence of dirt or formation of ice inside the lock, the dog may be slowed down in its movement towards the position of coupling with the fork so that, as the door comes
25 close to the corresponding frame, closing does not occur, with a consequent bouncing back of the door itself.

DISCLOSURE OF INVENTION

The purpose of the present invention is to provide a lock for
30 a door of a motor vehicle, which will enable the drawback specified above inherent in known locks to be overcome, in a simple and inexpensive way.

The aforesaid purpose is achieved by the present invention, in
35 so far as it relates to a lock for a door of a motor vehicle

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- comprising a closing mechanism designed to co-operate with a lock striker, said closing mechanism comprising:
- a fork which can assume an opening position, in which it enables engagement and disengagement between said lock striker and a seat thereof, and a closing position, in which it withholds said lock striker within its seat and prevents disengagement thereof; and
 - a dog coupled by snap-action with said fork for blocking it in a releasable way in said closing position;
- 5 said lock being characterized in that it comprises auxiliary lever means which can be actuated by said fork during coupling with said lock striker to exert an action of thrust on said dog and cause it to couple with the fork itself.
- 10

15 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

For a better understanding of the present invention a preferred embodiment is described in what follows, purely by way of non-limiting example and with reference to the annexed drawings, in which:

- Figure 1 is a front view, partially sectioned and with parts removed for reasons of clarity, of a lock for a door of a motor vehicle, made according to the present invention and set in an opening condition;
- Figure 2 is a front view, partially sectioned and with parts removed for reasons of clarity, of the lock of Figure 1 in a closing condition; and
- Figure 3 is a front view, partially sectioned and with parts removed for reasons of clarity, of the lock of Figure 1 in a step of displacement towards the closing condition.

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30 BEST MODE FOR CARRYING OUT THE INVENTION

With reference to the annexed figures, designated, as a whole, by 1 is a lock for a door of a motor vehicle (the door and the motor vehicle not being illustrated).

- 35 The lock 1 basically comprises a box-type supporting body 2, of which, for reasons of clarity, only a plate 3 is

- 4 -

illustrated, which is designed to be fixed to the aforesaid door, and a closing mechanism 4, which is constrained to the supporting body 2 and is designed to co-operate with a cylindrical portion 5 of a lock striker 6 represented only in 5 part, fixed to a fixed upright (not illustrated) of the door itself.

In particular, the plate 3 defines a C-shaped side opening 7 designed to receive the portion 5 of the lock striker 6 during 10 closing of the door.

The closing mechanism 4 basically comprises a fork 8 and a dog 9, which are hinged about respective fixed pins 10, 11, which are, in turn, fixed to the plate 3 and have respective axes A, 15 B parallel to one another and orthogonal to the plate 3 itself.

The fork 8 is constituted by a shaped plate made of metal material, is hinged in an area corresponding to an 20 intermediate portion 12 thereof about the pin 10 and has a C-shaped peripheral seat 13, which is designed to house the portion 5 of the lock striker 6 and is delimited laterally by a pair of teeth 14, 15.

25 Conveniently, the fork 8 is coated externally by a shell made of plastic material, from which there exit the free ends of the teeth 14 and 15 delimiting the seat 13.

The fork 8 is pushed in a known way, by a spring (not 30 illustrated) wound around the pin 10 and constrained to the fork 8 itself and to the plate 3 towards an opening position (see Figure 1), in which the seat 13 faces in the same direction as the opening 7 of the plate 3 and thus enables engagement and disengagement of the portion 5 of the lock 35 striker 6; the fork 8 can, moreover, assume a closing position (see Figure 2), in which it blocks the portion 5 of the lock

- 5 -

striker 6 within its seat 13 and prevents exit thereof, by intercepting the opening 7 with the tooth 14.

The dog 9 is formed by a shaped plate designed to couple via
5 snap-action with the fork 8 for blocking it in a releasable way in the closing position.

In particular, the dog 9 extends basically on the same plane of lie as the fork 8, is hinged to the pin 11 in an area
10 corresponding to one end thereof and is designed to engage via snap-action, by means of an opposite L-shaped end edge 20 of its own, with a shoulder 21 made along the peripheral edge of the tooth 14 of the fork 8 on the opposite side to the side that delimits the seat 13.

15 The dog 9 is pushed in a known way towards the fork 8 by a cylindrical helical spring (not illustrated) wound around the pin 11 and constrained to the dog 9 itself and to the plate 3.

20 In particular, following upon slamming of the door, the fork 8 is designed to be displaced, under the thrust of the portion 5 of the lock striker 6, from the opening position to an overtravel position (Figure 3) set beyond the closing position; during the stretch of travel comprised between the
25 closing position and the overtravel position, referred to briefly in what follows as "overtravel", the fork 8 passes, with its own shoulder 21, beyond the dog 9, enabling the latter to snap, with its own end edge 20, into a position facing the shoulder 21 itself. In the course of the subsequent
30 elastic return of the fork 8 towards the opening position, the shoulder 21 sets itself bearing upon the end edge 20 of the dog 9, which thus defines the closing position of the fork 8 itself on the lock striker 6.

35 According to an important aspect of the present invention, the closing mechanism 4 further comprises an auxiliary lever 22,

- 6 -

which can be actuated by the fork 8 during coupling with the portion 5 of the lock striker 6 to exert an action of thrust on the dog 9 and cause it to couple with the fork 8 itself.

- 5 In particular, the auxiliary lever 22 is hinged to the plate 3 by means of a pin 23 having an axis C parallel to the axes A and B, and is set in a position facing the fork 8 and the dog 9 and substantially alongside the fork and dog themselves.
- 10 Preferably, the auxiliary lever 22 is approximately L-shaped and comprises an intermediate portion 24 hinged to the pin 23, and an actuating arm 25 and a thrust arm 26, which project in cantilever fashion from the intermediate portion 24, form with one another an angle slightly greater than 90°, and are 15 designed to co-operate with the fork 8 and with the dog 9, respectively.

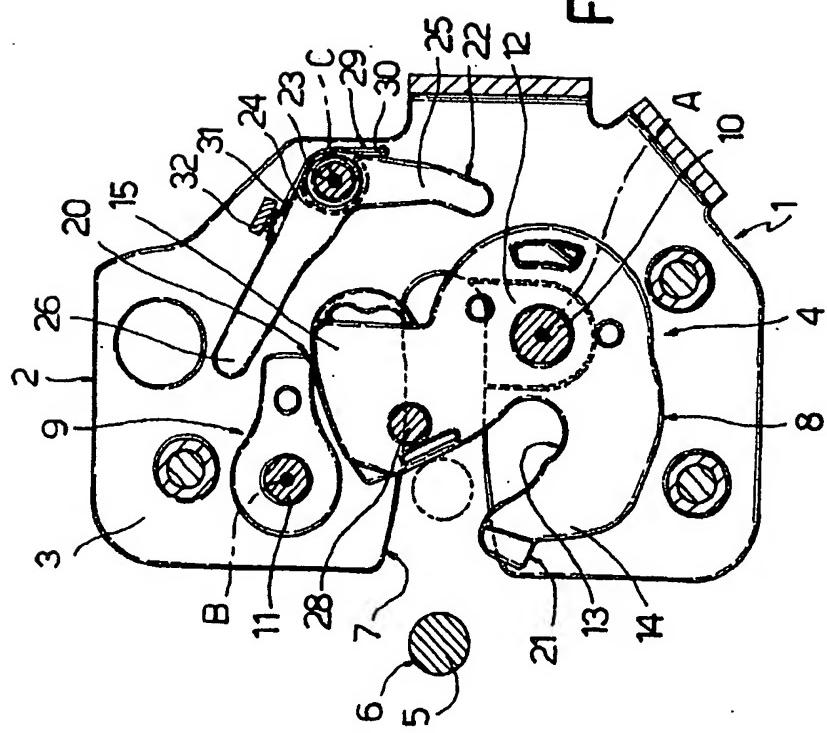
In particular, the thrust arm 26 of the auxiliary lever 22 extends on the same plane of lie as the fork 8 and the dog 9, 20 whilst the actuating arm 25 extends parallel and in a position above the plane of lie of the fork 8 itself.

- The actuating arm 25 is designed to receive, during overtravel displacement of the fork 8, i.e., during displacement from the 25 closing position (see Figure 2) to the overtravel position (see Figure 3), thrust forces from a pin 28 projecting orthogonally in cantilever fashion from the tooth 15 of the fork 8 itself.
- 30 As a result of the thrust received on its actuating arm 25, the auxiliary lever 22 is designed to rotate about the axis C so as to bring about interaction of the thrust arm 26 with the dog 9.

- 35 In particular, the thrust arm 26 extends on the opposite side of the dog 9 with respect to the fork 8 and, following upon

1 / 2

Fig. 1



2 / 2

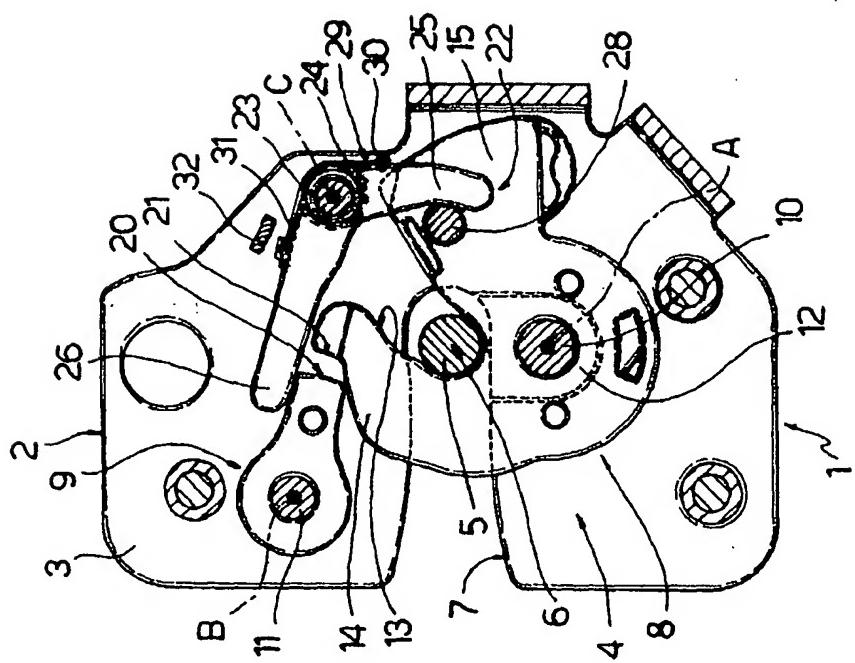


Fig. 3

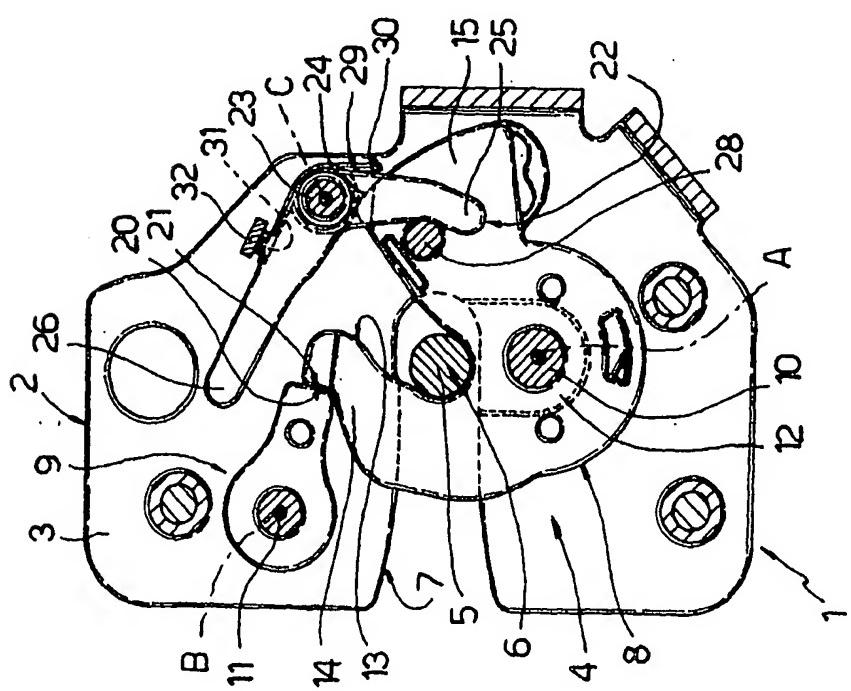


Fig. 2

Abstract

Described herein is a lock for a door of a motor vehicle provided with a closing mechanism designed to cooperate with a lock striker fixed to an upright of the door itself; the closing mechanism is provided with: a fork, which can assume an opening position, in which it enables engagement and disengagement between the lock striker and a seat thereof, and a closing position, in which it withholds the lock striker within its seat and prevents disengagement thereof; a dog coupled via snapaction with the fork for blocking it in a releasable way in the closing position; and an auxiliary lever, which can be actuated by the fork during coupling with the lock striker for exerting an action of thrust on the dog and causing it to couple with the fork itself

21908-3587

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 CFR 1.5)

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/EP2004/051542	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE 19 July 2004	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED 18 July 2003
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TITLE OF INVENTION A LOCK FOR A DOOR OF A MOTOR VEHICLE

APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US Ottino et al.
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Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:

1. This is a **FIRST** submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371.
2. This is a **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371.
3. This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (24) indicated below.
4. The US has been elected (Article 31).
5. A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(2))
 - a. is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).
 - b. has been communicated by the International Bureau.
 - c. is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).
6. An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).
 - a. is attached hereto.
 - b. has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
7. Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3))
 - a. are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).
 - b. have been communicated by the International Bureau.
 - c. have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.
 - d. have not been made and will not be made.
8. An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).
9. An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(4)).
10. An English language translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(5)).
11. A copy of the International Preliminary Examination Report (PCT/IPEA/409).
12. A copy of the International Search Report (PCT/ISA/210).

Items 13 to 23 below concern document(s) or information included:

13. An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
14. An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.
15. A **FIRST** preliminary amendment.
16. A **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** preliminary amendment.
17. A substitute specification.
18. A power of attorney and/or change of address letter.
19. A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 37 CFR 1.821 - 1.825.
20. A second copy of the published International Application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
21. A second copy of the English language translation of the International Application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
22. Express Mail Label No. **EL 962726945 US**

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 199

} persons are required to respond to a collection of information

U.S. APPLICATION NO (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5)		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/EP2004/051542		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 21908-103587	
23. Other items or information:					
The following fees have been submitted:				CALCULATIONS	PTO USE
24. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basic national fee				\$300	\$300.00
25. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examination fee (37 CFR 1.492(c)) If the written opinion prepared by ISA/US or the international preliminary examination report prepared by IPEA/US indicates all claims satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) . . . \$0 All other situations. \$200				\$200.00	
26. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Search fee (37 CFR 1.492(b)) If the written opinion of the ISA/US or the International preliminary examination report by IPEA/US indicates all claims satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) . . . \$0 Search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) has been paid on the international application to the as an International Searching Authority. \$100 International Search Report prepared by an ISA other than the US and provided to the previously communicated to the US by the IB. \$400 All other situations. \$500				\$500.00	
TOTAL OF 24, 25 and 26 =				\$1,000.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional fee for specification and drawings filed in paper over 100 sheets (excluding sequence listing in compliance with 37 CFR 1.821(c) or (e) or computer program listing in an electronic medium) (37 CFR 1.492(l)). The fee is \$250 for each additional 50 sheets of paper or fraction thereof.					
Total Sheets	Extra Sheets	Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof (round up to a whole)		RATE	
13 - 100 =	0 /50 =	0		x \$250.00	\$0.00
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing any of the search fee, examination fee, or the oath or declaration after the date of commencement of the national stage (37 CFR 1.492(h)).					
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE		
Total claims	6 - 20 =	0	x \$50.00	\$0.00	
Independent claims	1 - 3 =	0	x \$200.00	\$0.00	
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS (if applicable)			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	+ \$360.00	\$360.00
			TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =		
			\$1,360.00		
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. Fees above are reduced by 1/2.			\$0.00		
			SUBTOTAL =	\$1,360.00	
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(i)).			\$0.00		
			TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =	\$1,360.00	
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40 per property +			\$0.00		
			TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =	\$1,360.00	
			Amount to be	\$	
			Amount to be	\$	

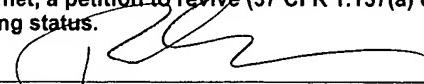
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

- a. A check in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the above fees is enclosed.
- b. Please charge my Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- c. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1759. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- d. Fees are to be charged to a credit card. **WARNING:** Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the International Application to pending status.

SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

Robin W. Asher
 Clark Hill PLC
 500 Woodward Avenue, Ste. 3500
 Detroit, MI 48226-3435


SIGNATURE

Robin W. Asher

NAME

41,590

REGISTRATION NUMBER

12/19/05

DATE

Docket No. _____

Declaration and Power of Attorney For Patent Application**English Language Declaration**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

Lock for a Motor Vehicle Door

the specification of which

(check one)

is attached hereto.

was filed on July 19, 2004 as United States Application No. or PCT International

Application Number PCT/EP 04/051542

and was amended on _____

(If applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or (f), or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent, or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or 365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

<u>Prior Foreign Application(s)</u>			<u>Priority Claimed</u>
TO2003A000557 (Number)	Italy (Country)	18/07/03 (Day/Month/Year Filed)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. Section 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U. S. C. Section 120 of any United States application(s), or Section 365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, C. F. R., Section 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of this application:

(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. (*list name and registration number*)

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David J. SIMONELLI	36,680
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Sole or first inventor's signature <i>F. Ottino</i>	<i>14/04/06</i>
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Our Ref: 703505US

Your Ref:

June 16, 2006

VIA REGISTERED MAIL

Mr. Giacomo CROTTI
Via Liguria, 17
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Italy

Dear Mr. Crotti:

Re: PCT Patent Application No. PCT/ EP 04/051542
Title: Lock for a Motor Vehicle Door
Applicant: Intier Automotive Closures Inc.

Enclosed is a Declaration and Power of Attorney for Patent Application document along with a copy of the application. Kindly execute the Declaration and Power of Attorney document and return a copy to us by facsimile and the original by regular mail in the self addressed envelope by July 17, 2006.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex Porat".

Respectfully submitted,

Alex Porat
Patent Counsel
AP/ae-Encls.



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3

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